Texas Farm Bureau

2020 Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet
Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet
Contest Specifics / Timeline

☐ **Application Process**

  o **Complete Registration Form**
    
    • Due **Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.**
      
      • Submit signed Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet Form via email: youngfarmers@txfb.org

☐ **Round One & Two of the competition**

  o **Monday October 19th**
    
    • Questions 1 & 2 will be sent to registered applicants via E-Mail.

  o **Tuesday, October 20th**
    
    • **10:00 a.m.** – Competitors video responses must be uploaded

  o **Tuesday, October 27th**
    
    • **6:00 p.m.** – Announce Preliminary Round winners and announce Preliminary Round Topic Question

  o **Wednesday, October 28th**
    
    • **12:00 p.m. (noon)** – Conduct the Preliminary Round Competition Round
    
    • **6:00 p.m.** – Announce Final 4 Winners and Final 4 Topic Question

  o **Thursday, October 29th at**
    
    • **12:00 p.m. (noon)** – Conduct Final 4 Competition Round
    
    • **6:00 p.m.** – Present Awards Program – Announce the winners
2020 Texas Farm Bureau
Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet Registration Form

Note: The applicant should carefully read through this application form before filling out any part of it. This application and entry form must be emailed to youngfarmers@txfb.org by 11:59 p.m. on October 7, 2020.

1. CDM CONTESTANT FULL NAME: ____________________________

2. CURRENT ADDRESS: ________________________________________

3. PERMANENT ADDRESS -- if different than above: ________________

4. CELL PHONE: _______ 5. E-MAIL ADDRESS: ________________

6. COUNTY: ______________ 7. DATE OF BIRTH: ______________

8. PLEASE GIVE A 5-7 LINE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

9. Are you a TEXAS FARM BUREAU Member? ____________ 10. If you are a TFB Member, please enter your TFB Member Number: ____________

11. ENTER NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: ________________

12. ENTER YOUR MAJOR: ________________________________

13. ENTER SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION (Freshman/Sophomore/Junior/Senior): ________

14. SCHOOL CONTACT NAME: ____________________________

15. SCHOOL CONTACT TITLE: ____________________________

16. SCHOOL CONTACT EMAIL: ____________________________

17. SCHOOL CONTACT PHONE: ____________________________

I certify that I (the above named applicant) have met all the contestant qualifications to participate in this year’s Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet.

__________________________________________
APPLICANT SIGNATURE

____________________________
COLLEGIATE ADVISORY, PROFESSOR OR DEPARTMENT HEAD
Signature: ____________________________
Printed Name: ________________________
Email: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________

EMAIL COMPLETED FORMS TO: youngfarmers@txfb.org
Eligibility

- Applicant shall be between the ages of 18 and 35. The individual shall have reached his/her 18th birthday at the time he/she qualifies for the national competition and shall not have reached his/her 36th birthday by the last day of January 31, 2021.

- Applicant must be an undergraduate college student in a state with a recognized YF&R program at the time of the state contest.

- Applicant shall not be enrolled in a graduate-level program at the time of his or her state Collegiate Discussion Meet competition.

- Applicant must display a sincere interest in the agricultural industry.

- Applicant may only compete in one national YF&R Competition per year.

- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse/spousal-equivalent are not eligible to compete.

- Past state YF&R Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet winners and/or previous AFBF Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet competitors are not eligible to compete.

- Current employees of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus and their affiliates are not eligible to compete.

- Professional speakers are not eligible to compete. Professional speakers are those who have received a fee, royalty or honorarium for speaking (i.e., paid speaking appearances or speaking engagements) within 24 months prior to this annual competition. This excludes reimbursement for travel or expenses attendant to the appearance.
Topics for 2020 Texas Collegiate Discussion Meet

1. International trade is important to agriculture. We must continue working to build strong relations with existing customers while seeking out new trade partners to strengthen market stability. How can we enhance existing, and establish new and diverse foreign trading partners?

2. Connectivity underpins the modern economy. What mix of investment and policy initiatives can provide reliable broadband access to farmers, ranchers and rural America?

3. The increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters creates additional risk for farmers and ranchers. What tools and production practices can be engaged to reduce climate and weather risks?

4. The decline in rural populations is accelerated by a poor farm economy. What solutions would enhance the vibrancy and economic sustainability of agriculture and rural communities?

5. Is big data a big solution or big exposure? Technology tools are often cited as a method of increasing productivity and profitability, but there are liabilities that go along with technology. As young farmers and ranchers we are often first adopters. How do we ensure clear understanding of the risks and rewards of big data and smart farming?
Contest Format

1. For Rounds One & Two, contestants will submit individual video responses for each of the Round 1 and 2 questions to be scored by judges.
2. Questions for both rounds will be sent to applicants via email.
3. Competitors have 24 hours to submit a video clip for each question.
   - **Upload the two separate video clips to YouTube as “unlisted.”** Share the videos using the unique URL for each. Only those who have the link will be able to access the videos. Send links to youngfarmers@txfb.org for official submission. We ask that each competitor send one email with both videos and they use the subject line “Opening Round Videos for ___________ (name)”.
4. Video clips are sent to judges to evaluate based on a provided rubric.
5. The next round of competitors will be identified based on judges ranking and scores. Those individuals will advance to the Preliminary Round of the competition.
6. Preliminary Rounds will be held in pre designated Zoom Discussion Rooms.
   - Questions for this round are published 12 hours before the Zoom competition.
   - Preliminary Round competitors, room chairs, room moderators, room timekeepers and judges enter Zoom video conference for brief virtual orientation one hour in advance.
   - Zoom call for the Preliminary Round is split into preassigned Breakout Rooms – four competitors, three judges, one room chair, moderator and timekeeper each
   - Discussion Meet competitive event ensues in virtual fashion.
7. All contest facilitators and contestants will meet in the pre-assigned Zoom Call room ten minutes prior to the start of the contest to receive last minute comments by the room chairman.
8. No contestant notes are allowed prior to the moderator starting the meet.
9. The room chairman will call the meeting to order, announce the topic to be discussed, and introduce the moderator and timekeeper.
10. The moderator will introduce the contestants, in voluntary order, they will have the opportunity to make a 30-second opening statement.
11. The timekeeper may verbally indicate when 30 seconds has elapsed. Judges may subtract points at their discretion for contestants who abuse the time limit.
12. The moderator will then indicate the opportunity for open discussion, which will continue for a total of 25 minutes. The discussion should be directed to fellow contestants during open discussion.
13. The moderator/timekeeper will hold up card indicating when five minutes of open discussion time remains in each contest.
14. If the discussion is lagging, the moderator may close the discussion at this time.
15. The moderator timekeeper will indicate when 25 minutes has elapsed.
16. The moderator will call for open discussion to stop and for one minute of quiet time allowing the contestants to consider a closing statement.

17. The moderator will give each of the contestants, in voluntary order, the opportunity to make a one-minute closing statement.

18. Judges will evaluate and score competitors using a provided rubric and tally sheet and submit scores to Collegiate Discussion Meet Subcommittee and TFB staff for inputting into scoring system.

19. After scores are tallied and verified, the competitors who advance to the next round will be announced during a Zoom Conference.

20. The Final Four Round will be held in a pre-designated Zoom Discussion Room.

21. Judges will evaluate and score competitors using a provided rubric and tally sheet and submit scores to Collegiate Discussion Meet Subcommittee and TFB staff for inputting into scoring system.

22. An Awards Program will be held via Zoom and the winners will be announced.
# Judges Score Sheet for Rounds 1 & 2

**Collegiate Discussion Meet Judges Sheet**

Room Name: ___________________ Round #: ______
Judge’s Name: ___________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comp A Name</th>
<th>Comp B Name</th>
<th>Comp C Name</th>
<th>Comp D Name</th>
<th>Comp E Name</th>
<th>Comp F Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: 45 pts.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contestant develops solutions (15 points) &amp; plans actions to resolve the issue (15 points) while including Farm Bureau in the action plan (15 points)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: 30 pts.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contestant identifies causes of the problem (10 points), remains on topic (10 points), while sharing an accurate, working knowledge of the topic (10 points)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) DELIVERY: 15 pts.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contestant speaks at an audible volume and pace (5 points), forms clear sentences (5 points), and conveys thoughts and viewpoints clearly and confidently (5 points). *Deduct 5 points if video is over the 3-minute limit.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) THESIS STATEMENT: 10 pts.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contestant clearly defines the problem (5 points) and relays the importance and relevancy of problem (5 points).</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by judge. Total of 100 points possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Rank contestants: 1 (highest) through 6 (lowest).
# Judges Score Sheet for Preliminary & Final Rounds

**Room Name:** ____________________________

**Collegiate Discussion Meet Judges Sheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comp A Name</th>
<th>Comp B Name</th>
<th>Comp C Name</th>
<th>Comp D Name</th>
<th>Comp E Name</th>
<th>Comp F Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**In these columns, put the first and last name of the competitors according to where they are sitting using this diagram:**

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F

## (1) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: (200 points)

- Ability and judgment in seeking answers and solutions, planning and organizational understanding, and the inclusion of Farm Bureau in implementing action programs.

## (2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: (150 points)

- Does contestant attempt to identify problem causes and remain on topic?

## (3) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: (100 points)

- Listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, securing major agreement, minimizing major differences. Courtesy to other participants, encourage discussion from other participants.

## (4) DELIVERY: (100 points)

- Voice quality, loudness, clear enunciation, communication skills, desirable sentence structure and interesting choice of words.

## (5) OPENING STATEMENT: (50 points)

- Definition of problem, importance, causes, effects, relevancy of problem.

## (6) CLOSING STATEMENT: (100 points)

- Ability to summarize discussion and formulate direction for the future.

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Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by Judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by Judge. **TOTAL**

Total of 700 points possible.

Rank contestants: 1(highest) – 0(lowest) **RANK**

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**Signed:** ____________________________ **Signed:** ____________________________ **Judge:** ____________________________ **Room Chair** ____________________________
For More Information about Texas Farm Bureau:

Please visit our Website @ www.texasfarmbureau.org

For information concerning the Virtual Collegiate Discussion Meet Contest contact:

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Director of Organization

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or send Email to:

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or

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